

- I. Claims 1-14, drawn to a coating composition, classified in class 106, subclass 14.05.
- II. Claims 15-16, drawn to a coating process, classified in class 148, subclass 243.
- III. Claim 17, drawn to a coated metal product, classified in class 428, subclass 357.

In reviewing the claims, the undersigned noted that claims 1-14 are drawn to a composition, claims 15 and 16 are drawn to a method for forming a coating by applying a composition of claim 1, and claim 17 is drawn to a metal substrate having a coating formed by a composition according to claim 1 applied by the method of claim 15.

Applicants submit that the three claim types are connected by the common use of a composition and by the fact that all three claim types depend from a single independent composition claim. Further, as claimed, the process and metal substrate having a protective coating cannot be made by a different chemical conversion coating process, as suggested by the Examiner, where the process and substrate claims require use of Applicant's claimed composition. Accordingly, Applicants traverse the election requirement and request its withdrawal.

Applicants hereby elect Group I: Claims 1-14, drawn to a coating composition, with traverse.

Early consideration and allowance are respectfully requested. Any questions regarding this submission should be directed to the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

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